

For the past decade, Dr. Janssen has played an invaluable role in helping the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors accomplish its Federal and State legislative priorities.

While his many accomplishments are too numerous to list here, his most recent efforts clearly demonstrate just how much he has meant to Los Angeles county and my State over his entire career.

Dr. Janssen has advocated closely on important Medicaid reform proposals and helped to improve the flexibility of Federal foster care funds.

He coordinated and developed advocacy strategies with local government and housing and community development groups in the Los Angeles region to protect vital community development block grant funds.

Working to improve the county's health system, Dr. Janssen helped assure critical Federal funding guarantees and assisted in creating an action plan in the event of an avian flu epidemic. He also collaborated with the State's congressional delegation, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, and the administration to secure funding for Martin Luther King/Charles R. Drew Medical Center—King/Drew—in south Los Angeles, preserving critical, life-saving services, and ensuring that the patients served by King/Drew continue to have access to care.

In an issue that is of utmost importance to my State, he worked closely with key administration officials and members of Congress to ensure that Los Angeles Air Force Base would not be closed or realigned.

In terms of homeland security, Dr. Janssen led the county in working to boost funding and increase the allocation of first responder grants to local governments. Likewise, he supported legislation to adopt a threat-based formula that directs homeland security funds where they are needed most.

These are just some of Dr. Janssen's significant accomplishments on behalf of Los Angeles county and the State of California. As he retires, I extend my gratitude to him for his many contributions throughout a distinguished career. With sincere best wishes, I congratulate him upon his retirement from public service. I am pleased to join his many coworkers, family, friends, and associates in wishing him health, happiness, and good fortune in all his future endeavors.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CHUCK LARSON, SR.

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, one of the joys of my job as a Senator is working closely with talented, dedicated Iowans from all walks of life. One of those exceptional people is Chuck Larson, Sr., U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Iowa. With his retirement next month, he will conclude an extraordinary career in public service spanning nearly four decades.

Chuck has dedicated his life to the law and public safety, as director of

Iowa public safety in the 1970s, as a consultant in Saudi Arabia to the Kingdom's Highway Patrol Project in the early 1980s, as director of the Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy, and as a member of the President's Drug Free Communities Committee. In December, he will complete two terms as U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Iowa.

My staff and I have worked closely with Chuck for many years. I could cite many examples of his leadership and professional excellence, but one instance stands out in particular. Some time ago, my office was contacted by members of an Iowa jurisdiction where various law enforcement agencies and key players in the community were not communicating effectively, leading to an increase in drug and gang activity. My staff contacted Chuck, and he intervened in that community personally and directly. He set up meetings with community members and law enforcement agencies and brought them together in a positive spirit. Today, that community is considered a national model for cooperation in the fight against drugs and gangs. And one thing that all groups in the community agree on is that it was Chuck's leadership and personal skills—going above and beyond his job description—that led to this success. Thanks to Chuck's work in that community and cross my State, Iowa is a better, safer place to live, work, and raise a family. Indeed, there is no doubt in my mind that Chuck's dedicated work is one big reason why Iowa has one of the lowest crime rates in the United States.

One key to Chuck's success is that he speaks with the authority of a seasoned veteran of decades on the front line fighting crime and improving public safety. Throughout his distinguished career, he has put public service above personal gain. We have all heard the saying that "you get what you pay for." But in Iowa, when it comes to U.S. attorneys, that is not the case. We get far better than we pay for. Despite modest salaries, Iowa has been blessed with U.S. attorneys of the highest caliber. And most folks in Iowa know this and appreciate it. We hold our law enforcement professionals—from police officers right up to the highest ranking prosecutors—in special esteem. And we are grateful for the excellence, professionalism, and long hours that they bring to their jobs.

I will miss Chuck's counsel and his can-do, cooperative attitude. My staff and I have turned to him again and again over the years, and he has never let us down. It has meant so much to be able to rely on someone of his caliber for authoritative answers and prompt action.

Though I am sorry to see Chuck go, I know how much he is looking forward to spending more time with his family—his wife Ellen and his children and grandchildren. I am grateful for his decades of truly distinguished and brilliant public service, and I wish him the very best.●

#### 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REDFIELD FIRE

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I wish to remember the fire that devastated the community of Redfield, SD, on November 16, 1986. Though there was a tragic loss of life and many families saw their property and possessions destroyed, the community was able to come together to help each other through those difficult times and to ultimately rebuild and thrive.

The fire began sometime prior to 4:30 that morning and was reported by Dawn Waldner. Soon local police and firefighters were on the scene, but the blaze proved uncontrollable. It was in the process of consuming an apartment building with 31 apartments and many of the downtown businesses in Redfield. The fire was so hot that it cracked the windows of any building in the vicinity of the flames. The Senior Citizens Center, Crawford Furniture, Coast to Coast hardware, Blaine St. Clair's business office, American Family Insurance, KQKD Radio, and a TV repair shop were among the businesses that were destroyed or damaged.

The day's greatest loss, however, was the life of young Rebecca Nelson, who was just over a year old. She was trapped in the burning apartment building, and though people on the scene made heroic efforts to save her, they could not discover her in time. Civilian Gene Freshour and police sergeant Dave Dosch both risked their lives by going into the building without masks to search for the child. Firefighters Bob Tiff, Jim Haider, Ron Eimers, and Rich Gruenwald formed a search team, also risking their lives, in the attempt to find Rebecca. Despite the brave actions of all those involved in the effort, she could not be rescued.

The fire burned so hot that firefighters said they could see the water evaporating before it even hit the fire. The tar on the streets melted, and ammunition in the hardware store was set off. By the time the embers were cold, over a million gallons of water had been used putting it out. It wasn't long, though, before the community came together to start the hard work of healing and rebuilding.

With the help of two community development block grants, the city was able to purchase much of the damaged property. Over 580 truckloads of debris were taken from the area, but new businesses have moved in and prospered. The site also is home to a memorial to Rebecca Nelson. There will be a memorial service in memory of the events of the day on November 16, 2006, at Siegling's Parking Lot, near the Rebecca Nelson Memorial. I extend my deepest condolences to those who suffered losses in the fire and commend the community for their unity and perseverance in rebounding from this disaster.●

#### BIGHORN CENTER TRIBUTE

● Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the Bighorn

Center for Public Policy and to recognize the work of a great Coloradan, the Bighorn Center's CEO and founder, Rutt Bridges.

The Bighorn Center for Public Policy was created in 1999 in an effort to provide Colorado with a truly nonpartisan organization that identifies, develops, and advocates public policies to enrich the quality of life in the State of Colorado. Over the past 7 years, the Bighorn Center has brought together leaders from both sides of the aisle to find real solutions to Colorado's ever-changing public policy needs.

Rutt Bridges is a close friend and colleague. He is a man who understands the value of hard work and authentic leadership, and it has been my pleasure to work with him over the years to improve Colorado.

More than 25 years ago, Mr. Bridges and his wife moved to Colorado and founded a small software company that used emerging computer technology to search for oil. With his ambition and intelligence, Mr. Bridges revolutionized the oil exploration business. His small software company quickly grew from 3 employees to over 70. When he sold his company in 1994, he committed himself to doing good for Colorado, and he has maintained that commitment to this day.

The Bighorn Center's list of accomplishments is impressive. As Colorado attorney general, I worked with the Bighorn Center to develop the Colorado Anti-Bully Project. The Bighorn Center and Mr. Bridges are most well-known, however, for Colorado's telemarketing no-call list, passed in 2001 by Colorado's General Assembly. I am most proud of working with Rutt and the Center to help develop this landmark consumer protection law. Taking on special interests and supplying grassroots political pressure, the Bighorn Center was the driving force in making it easy for Coloradans to choose to block intrusive and unwanted telemarketing calls.

Mr. Bridges and the Bighorn Center did not stop there and have often worked behind the scenes to encourage more campaign finance disclosure, convene meetings to discuss Colorado's budget issues, and create a DNA fingerprinting database for all criminals.

The Bighorn Center also created the Bighorn Leadership Development Program, directed by another distinguished Coloradan, Brenda Morrison. This bipartisan program has effectively recruited and trained over 200 young leaders to work for a better Colorado.

I am proud of the accomplishments of the Bighorn Center for Public Policy, and I applaud Mr. Bridges, Ms. Morrison, and other staff at the Bighorn Center for their dedication to making Colorado a better place to live. While the Bighorn Center is closing its doors, its legacy and the work of these civic-minded Coloradans will continue.●

## MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE DURING ADJOURNMENT

### ENROLLED BILL AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Under authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 2005, the Secretary of the Senate, on November 16, 2006, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill and joint resolution:

H.R. 6326. An act to clarify the provision of nutrition services to older Americans.

H.J. Res. 100. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2007, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill and joint resolution were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

## MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 6325. An act to provide a new effective date for the applicability of certain provisions of law to Public Law 105-331.

H.J. Res. 101. Joint resolution appointing the day for the convening of the first session of the One Hundred Tenth Congress.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 423. Concurrent resolution authorizing the printing as a House document of "A History, Committee on the Judiciary, United States House of Representatives, 1813-2006".

## MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was discharged from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs by unanimous consent, and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

H.R. 3699. An act to provide for the sale, acquisition, conveyance, and exchange of certain real property in the District of Columbia to facilitate the utilization, development, and redevelopment of such property, and for other purposes.

The following bill was read, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 6325. An act to provide a new effective date for the applicability of certain provisions of law to Public Law 105-331; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

## EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-9038. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, five quarterly Selected Acquisition Reports (SARs) for the quarter ending June 30, 2006; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-9039. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States in the past sixty days; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-9040. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to U.S. military personnel and civilian contractors involved in the anti-narcotics campaign in Colombia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-9041. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of Innovation and Improvement, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Discretionary Grant Programs—Notice of Final Priorities" (71 FR 44671) received on November 14, 2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-9042. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the progress the Commission has made in achieving its mission to regulate and oversee energy industries; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-9043. A communication from the Attorney General, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to audits conducted on the Department of Justice's financial statements of fiscal year 2006; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-9044. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Trade Agreements Thresholds and Morocco Free Trade Agreement" (DFARS Case 2005-D017) received on November 15, 2006; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-9045. A communication from the Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Government National Mortgage Association management report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2006; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-9046. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to the Republic of Korea, Luxembourg and to other countries yet to be determined; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-9047. A communication from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Disposition of HUD-Acquired Single Family Property; Disciplinary Actions Against HUD-Qualified Real Estate Brokers" (RIN2502-AI08) received on November 15, 2006; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-9048. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Adequacy of Missouri Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Program" (FRL No. 8242-9) received on November 15, 2006; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.